

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 00409 202049Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /056 W

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R 202025Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1826

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 0409

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CI, PFOR, US, SHUM

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF CHILEAN DETAINEES

REF: STATE 011811

1. AS REPORTED IN SANTIAGO PRESS, DURING REGULAR FRIDAY NEWS CONFERENCE JAN 17 UNDERSECY FONAFFAIRS COLLADOS HANDLED CAREFULLY QUESTION CONCERNING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S STATEMENT (REFTEL) ON US BEHIND-THE-SCENES NEGOTIATION FOR RELEASE OF CHILEAN DETAINEES. COLLADOS REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO ANSWER WHETHER SECRETARY SPECIFICALLY HAD "MEDIATED," BUT SAID IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES HAD MADE SUGGESTION TO GOC FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS. SUCH SUGGESTION DID NOT CONSTITUTE INTERVENTION, HOWEVER, WERE NOT OF DIPLOMATIC CHARACTER, AND WERE MADE INFORMALLY.

2. COMMENT: GOC HAS CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINED THAT RELEASE OF DETAINEES HAS BEEN ITS OWN DECISION AND NOT RESULT OF FOREIGN PRESSURE. NEVERTHELESS, COLLADOS CAREFULLY AVOIDED SAYING ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT UNDERCUT THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT. POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTIA00409
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750021-1012
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750137/aaaabgfe.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 011811
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF CHILEAN DETAINEES
TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, CI, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (MOYERS, BILL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006